



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

June 21, 2010

The Honorable Glenn Nye
U.S. House of Representatives
116 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Nye:

I am writing to thank you for your leadership on behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia regarding the FY11 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you in Washington in February, when we discussed several matters of great significance to the Commonwealth, including issues relating to Virginia's military presence. As you well know, the importance of the defense community to Virginia is substantial, not only because it is a driver of economic development, but also because the military personnel that work and reside in the Commonwealth bring a culture of service, dignity, and honor that have enhanced our state's quality of life for many years.

Chief among the many provisions in the NDAA that affect the military community in Virginia, this legislation no longer contains funds for any planning and design initiatives at Naval Station Mayport, by which the Navy sought to facilitate a transfer of a nuclear aircraft carrier from Naval Station Norfolk to Florida. Given that the estimates for the costs of homeporting a nuclear aircraft carrier at Naval Station Mayport continue to rise, nearing as much as \$1 billion, and the detrimental impact such a transfer would cause to Virginia, your efforts to block the transfer have been vital. The bill not only eliminated this funding, but it also included well-crafted report language explaining the inadequacy of the Navy's justification of a transfer, which the delegation's members of the House Armed Services Committee worked so diligently to obtain in the legislation. I am very appreciative of the entire delegation's leadership on such a critical issue to the Commonwealth, particularly the Hampton Roads area.

I look forward to our continued joint effort on the issues affecting Virginia's military servicemen and women who protect the nation both at home and abroad each day. Thank you again for your service to the Commonwealth.

With warm personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Robert F. McDonnell